

I. **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

In the Specification:

Please delete paragraph [0071] and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0071] Since CarboxyMethylDextran (CMD), in the form of sodium salt, is insoluble in an organic medium, it is necessary initially to acidify the polymer by percolation over an ion exchange resin (Amberlite IR 120) in order to generate CMDH*. The product is subsequently presented in the form of fluffy white-coloured fibres.

Please delete paragraph [0072] and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0072] The CMDH*(6 g, 32 mmol) is placed in solution in a mixture of fatty acids (FA)(45 mL), dimethylformamide (DMF) (180 mL) and 2-methyl-2-butene (45 mL) at 30°C. The sulphur trioxide complex, SO₃/DMF (24.3 g, 160 mmol) is added to this solution. It is left to react for two hours at 30°C while stirring. The reactional mixture is neutralized with sodium hydrogenocarbonate (NaHCO₃, 5%) to a pH=7.